



Quarterly Connection

North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
3100 Railroad Avenue ♦ PO Box 1898 ♦ Bismarck, ND 58502-1898

OCTOBER 2003

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Director's Comments

The DOCR has been busy; to be more specific, overwhelmed by duties associated with extremely high numbers of inmate admissions and increases in the number of offenders placed on probation! Also, the Department has been getting ready to send the women inmates to Dickinson and New England and staff has actively participated in a number of planning efforts. I'll update you briefly on these issues.

The DOCR and the SWMCCC signed a contract on September 2nd to house the women inmates in SWMCCC's facilities in Dickinson (multi-county jail) and New England (women's prison). SWMCCC plans to house the Orientation Unit for incoming women inmates in Dickinson. The DOCR will send the women as soon as SWMCCC is ready to accept them. Initially about 70-80 minimum custody women will be housed in the minimum custody facility in New England, however, the 15-20 higher custody women will be housed in Dickinson until the facility for them in New England is ready. The contract provides that the higher custody facility be ready by January 1. This means that since the Dickinson facility may not have adequate space to house both the higher custody women and the Orientation Unit for the women as planned, the DOCR will need to continue to house Orientation for women at the JRCC in Jamestown for the time being.

Male inmate admissions continue to set record highs each month. The total inmate population today, October 21, 2003 is 1,253 of which

1,142 are males; this number represents 119 more males than the estimated 1023 for this date. It appears that drug offenses continue to drive the increase in the population. If the population continues to increase at this rapid rate, the higher than estimated number of inmates will seriously impact our budget for the 2003-2005 biennium. Transfer of the women will only vacate 94 beds in the system. The 2003 Legislature did not include funding in the DOCR's budget to contract males (other than for 5 protection cases) outside of DOCR facilities during the 2003-2005 biennium. Equally alarming is that the number of offenders placed on probation has increased at the same high rate as inmate admissions. This stresses the caseloads of the probation officers and results in higher numbers of probation revocations, most of which are then sentenced to prison. I think it is fair to say that until the State can get a handle on the meth problem, the number of offenders coming to the DOCR will continue to increase.

Fortunately, the number of juveniles placed in custody of the Division of Juvenile Services has stabilized and even decreased somewhat during the past two years. This stabilization however, we believe, is a reflection of the fact that the number of kids up to age 18 has sharply decreased in the past 3-5 years. Even though the number of juveniles placed in DJS custody has stabilized, the juveniles received are more and more complicated to serve.

Staff in the department has been



Elaine Little

asked to prioritize what they believe to be the top three to four issues within the department that should be addressed through the upcoming adult services strategic planning process. Topping the list is "low salaries." The Department again plans to develop a comprehensive salary increase package for all DOCR employees to be presented to the next legislature. Low salaries have tremendously impacted recruitment, turnover and morale and must be addressed, not only as an issue of fairness to employees, but also in order that the Department can continue to maintain adequate staffing patterns in the community and in the prison facilities.

The issue ranked second by employees is "the impact of meth usage by offenders". Meth usage has created more officer safety issues and has impacted everything from medical costs to treatment strategies. The strategic planning process will also need to plan for the impact of the higher number of offenders in the community and in the institutions.

As I mentioned earlier, this is a busy time for the DOCR! Best wishes to all.

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Missouri River Correctional Center (MRCC)

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Rough Rider Industries (RRI)

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Treatment For Adult Offenders

By Patrick Foley, Director of Research/Program
 DOCR Central Office

The challenge to provide appropriate and effective treatment for adult offenders has faced the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR) for as long as anyone can remember. There seems to be continuous shortfalls in resources (money, qualified staff, effective curriculum, etc.). However, there never seems to be a shortage in need. The lack of adequate resources and the inability to keep treatment staff from being lured to more attractive positions creates stressors on the system. The department will examine key issues in an effort to counter resource and staff shortfalls. These include: treatment evaluations, treatment needs, treatment provided, effective treatment programs (where are they provided and by whom) and communication. The department will attempt to resolve these issues to increase public safety and reduce recidivism.

In its effort to increase public safety and reduce recidivism, the DOCR has embraced a "What Works" philosophy that is designed to drive program decisions at all levels of the department. The DOCR should not be expending resources unless there is a demonstrated effectiveness attached to what the resources are meant to provide. One program that has been adopted and should see expansion is the Cognitive Behavioral Program. It has been shown to be successful in developing pro-social thought processes in offenders nationally as well as within the department.

On October 10, 2003 the Director called key management staff together to explore the issues described above and develop a viable plan to meet offenders treatment needs. The process has just begun and there is a great deal of work left to accomplish. Among the tactics generated so far is the development of an assessment committee. This committee will

generate a plan to create a DOCR (Adult Services) Assessment Unit for both intakes to prison and transition to the community. It will establish the goals of the assessment unit and prepare a policy for the Directors review. Additionally, the treatment department will analyze current and proposed programs to help identify where resources can be best utilized. The National Institute of Corrections (NIC) is providing technical assistance to the department to develop the Transition From Prison to Community Initiative (TPCI). This will be a long process that hopes to bring various stakeholders to the corrections table to strengthen relationships and partnerships, ultimately increasing public safety and reducing recidivism.

The October 10 meeting generated many more ideas that are being developed and evaluated. The DOCR will continue to meet the challenge of providing appropriate and effective treatment for adult offenders.

More TWT at YCC

By Judy Ringgenberg, Librarian
 ND Youth Correctional Center

The teachers who participated in and completed TWT, Teaching With Technology Phase II, are once again taking the lead and registering for TWT Phase III. Becky Donovan, Jodi Hintz, and Charlene Jones registered for Phase III in September with Donna St. Moritz as lead administrator and Judy Ringgenberg as mentor for the online course. Cindy Dykema also enrolled in the Phase II course.

TWT's goal is to provide instruction and on-site assistance that will enable educational staff to effectively integrate technology as an

instructional tool into the K-12 curriculum.

TWT has played a significant role in increasing the knowledge and practices necessary for effective technology integration. Many of the terms, tools, and processes of TWT are embedded in other local, state, and national efforts. TWT Phase III connects to and helps schools with obligations regarding technology planning and professional development as well as standards-based education efforts (including meeting the ND Library Technology Literacy standards).

TWT is in its last phase and

promises to "LEAVE NO TEACHER BEHIND." ALL educators were offered the option to participate in the TWT professional development opportunity and develop a unit of instruction using a research-based format called the backward design model. The teachers will move between the online course (Blackboard) and an online proposal template to document standards, unit goals and objectives, acceptable evidence of understanding (assessment), and student learning activities.

Participating schools are listed on the website at http://www.ndtw.org/phase_III/p3t2-enrollment.htm.

Brain Gym

By Lenore Kuntz, Educational Teacher
ND Youth Correctional Center

During the second week of July, a course called Brain Gym was available in Bismarck. Some of us from YCC had been exposed to a small piece of this very interesting topic at a Correctional Ed Conference we attended a couple of years ago. It piqued my interest at the time and so I signed up!

Brain Gym is a group of "exercises" and procedures that stimulate the brain to eliminate learning and emotional blocks and promote the brain to "cross-over" to use both sides of the brain. It has a myriad of uses. Some individuals may use it to improve focus in the classroom prior to a test; others may continue doing the movements throughout the day to generally increase learning while still others may use it for

self-improvement in academic or emotional areas of life.

The newsletter I've received since the class documents progress in the school setting. Proponents of Brain Gym claim, in addition, major successes with dyslexia and FAS individuals. For the first time, we heard that with these specific exercises, brain cells could actually be generated in the frontal lobe and transferred to points of need. For those of us in the correctional setting, this could be particularly incredible news. Emotional baggage creates a block to learning and being able to eliminate some of that could be equally advantageous since we know that emotions and learning are closely linked.

Near the end of the sessions, two children (one a participant's daughter, the other a

participant's client) were brought in and the instructor ran through a "balance" with each child, taking into account each child's learning issues. The results were very interesting. We were also required to do a balance on ourselves as well as other participants. The results were amazing and in some cases, instantaneous.

There are no Brain Gym instructors in this area at this time. However, there is one in Valley City who is certified. When searching for available sites in this area after returning from that first contact at the CEA Conference, there was virtually nothing here. But another Brain Gym 101 was held in Devil's Lake in August this last summer and hopefully, Brain Gym 102 will convene next summer in Bismarck. Stay tuned!

A Message from the Editor

The *DOCR Quarterly Connection Newsletter* is an official publication of the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and is published four times each year. Its goal is to enhance communication and keep staff, and all those interested, informed of developments and achievements throughout the Department.

All employees and interested persons are encouraged to submit articles, letters, comments, and ideas for future issues of the *DOCR Quarterly Connection*, to be considered in the next publication.

The Editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for publication. Please email articles to:

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ND Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation
3100 Railroad Avenue, PO Box 1898
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Upcoming State Holidays...

NOVEMBER

Veterans Day..... 11
Thanksgiving..... 27

DECEMBER

Christmas Eve..... 24
Christmas Day..... 25

JANUARY

New Years Day..... 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day..... 19

Pardon Advisory Board Dates for 2003

April 8

October 28

Parole Board Meeting Dates for 2003

January 6	June 30 (July PB)
February 3	August 4
March 3	September 8
April 7	October 6
May 5	November 3
June 2	December 1

Parole Board Members

Parole Board Members are appointed by the Governor for a three-year term. The Parole Board Members are listed as follows:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Location</u>
John Olson, <i>Chairman</i>	Bismarck
Dick Davison	Bismarck
William Gipp	Bismarck
Craig Smith	Bismarck
Budd Warren	Fargo
Beverley Adams	Fargo

YCC Teachers and Students Complete The Challenge Trek

By Michael Porter, Director of Recreation
ND Youth Correctional Center

Nine students and four staff members from the North Dakota Youth Correctional Center completed The Roger Sorenson Challenge Trek from September 25 through September 29, 2003. This was the fortieth excursion of the program which began in 1983. Jeremy Ward, an Institutional Resident Specialist from Hickory Cottage, was the leader of the trek, with Mike Porter, Director of Recreation, as his co-leader on the trail. Pat Martin, Juvenile Services Program Director in Pine, and Tonie Garcia, Institutional Resident Specialist in Pine Cottage, were the Emergency Back-up staff.

Eight students from Hickory Cottage and one student from Pine Cottage, along with the leaders, backpacked over 40 miles of trails in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park in a three day period. The group was able to experience an abundance of wildlife which included around 20 elk, numerous Mule deer, wild horses, buffalo, prairie dogs, one rattlesnake, a beaver, and many antelope. The work project, completed for the park service on day four, was repairing the northern river fence of the park boundary which had been torn apart from the elk herds in the park. The group also hauled a truckload of old fence, barbed wire, and one 14 foot piece of I-bar to the park dump ground. The group

returned to the institution on September 29, for a graduation ceremony sponsored by the Golden Kiwanis Club of Bismarck/Mandan, who help the program with monetary donations to the program and medallions for the students completing the trek.

The trek is a physical excursion that presents both physical and mental challenges for the students to overcome. It helps build self-esteem, teamwork skills, life skills, trust, and anger management skills. The students were great during the whole trip. They consistently helped each other out and some have built new positive friendships with students and staff. The next trek is planned for the Spring of 2004.

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Central Office & Community

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Blue Cross Blue Shield ND Member Services Via the Web

You can use the Internet to inquire about your Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND coverage, by going to their Internet website at www.BCBSND.com, click "For Members" and log in. If you haven't visited the website before, you will need to register before entering this special area in Member Services. This site can also be accessed through the DOCR Intranet under the General Information tab.

Employee Assistance Program

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a confidential assessment/counseling/referral service staffed by trained professionals who can help you and your family members evaluate your problems and take positive action to resolve them.

St. Alexis/Heartview have clinical staff available to provide assessment, referral, and short-term counseling. Access to EAP can be obtained 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling:

St. Alexis Medical Center/Heartview
Employee Assistance Program
530-7195 (or) 1-800-327-7195

Please feel free to call for help and/or advice at any time. When calling after working hours, please ask for the EAP staff member on call.

Heart of the Program Award

By Jana Ternes, Program Coordinator
ND Youth Correctional Center

Janice Schwartzbauer, Cook II at the ND Youth Correctional Center in Mandan, won the State, Regional, & National *Heart of the Program* Award. Her award was presented to her at the Annual ND School Food Service Association State Conference from June 9-11, in Fargo. Janice will accept her National Award at the National American School Food Service Conference July 20-23 in Reno, Nevada. **Janice is the 1st North Dakotan to win a National Award, for school food service.**

The American School Food

Service Association sponsors a *Heart of the Program* Award.

This Award is designed to recognize the valuable program contribution of school food service and nutrition employees who work with their manager to prepare and serve appetizing meals to children. These employees can make a difference between an outstanding program and an average program. This award is intended to recognize non-management staff.

This award recognizes outstanding school food service employees who exhibit an extraordinary commitment to



the school food service program. The qualifications necessary for this award include: customer service, interest in young people, cooperation, work attendance, creativity, participates in professional growth and training and willingness to "Go the Extra Mile."

YCC and the Voyage of Discovery

By Cindy Dykema, Educational Teacher
ND Youth Correctional Center

Is it the Corps of Discovery or the Voyage of Discovery? It depends if you are talking about Lewis and Clark or the 2003 NDABSE Fall Conference that was held in Bismarck September 28th - 30th. The Voyage of Discovery was the theme of the ABSE Conference that started with State Director David Massey alerting ABSE educators to possible Federal Legislation that would impact the various programs.

The voyage continued the next

day by exploring the latest brain research with Cynthia Stevens. Ms. Stevens addressed issues such as why we learn more standing up than sitting down, how breaks in the classroom actually enhance memory, and what causes some students to actually shut down in a learning situation. Cindy Dykema, GED teacher, Gaylene Massey, program grant writer, and Dr. Bernie Rodel, program director from NDYCC participated in the conference along with 100 other ABSE educators from across the state of ND.

Continuing the Voyage the next day was spent learning about a variety of other topics including the new TABE test forms 9 & 10, Hands-on Math and the ADD-Vantages of Attention Deficit Disorder. One of the many highlights of the voyage was being introduced to the 88-year-old GED graduate from Crosby, ND. Participants are enthused about carrying the Voyage of Discovery back to their own schools and Adult Learning Centers across North Dakota.

NDSP Received Certificate of Appreciation

By Darrell Theurer, Lieutenant
DOCR Prisons Division

On October 15, 2003 Warden Tim Schuetzle accepted a certificate of appreciation from SSG Darrell Theurer on behalf of NDSP staff for their continued support of the Guard or Reserves. The award is presented on behalf of those NDSP staff who sacrificed in one way or another to allow soldiers like SSG Theurer to serve and protect our great

nation and the freedom we have come to expect.

SSG Theurer is a Lieutenant on the 1-9 shift at NDSP. He was called to active duty on January 24, 2003. He was assigned to assist in taking the Fargo based 142^{nds'} equipment to Fort Carson, Colorado. Once at Fort Carson, his orders were extended for an additional two weeks to assist in preparing the 142^{nds'} equipment for deployment to Iraq. He

returned to his duties at NDSP on February 11, 2003. He was called back to active duty on February 12, 2003. His next deployment took him to the Armed Forces Reserve Center in Fargo. There he was placed in charge of the security detail guarding the center. This detail lasted until August 15, 2003 at which time SSG Theurer returned to his duties at NDSP. Thanks to all DOCR employees for your continued support of the Guard and Reserve.

American School Food Services Association

By Jana Ternes, Program Coordinator
ND Youth Correctional Center

On July 1, 2003, Sandra Haas of the NDYCC has met the requirement for becoming certified through The American

School Food Service Association. With the increasing importance of eating healthy, well-balanced meals and food safety, being ASFSA certified adds credibility to your position

and to your school's nutrition program. In addition ASFSA's Certification Program is an excellent way for you to ensure your continued professional development.

YCC Teachers Attend Title I Conference

By Mary Baird, Educational Teacher
ND Youth Correctional Center

Cindy Dykema and Mary Baird, Title I teachers at YCC, recently attended the Title I Summer Institute. The Title I Institute is sponsored on a yearly basis by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. Its purpose is to provide teachers who teach remedial classes with new strategies to help students

raise their abilities in reading, language arts and math.

This year's workshop leader was Nancy Polette, a professor at Lindenwood University and former Director of the University Laboratory School. She is the author of *Reading Guidance in a Media Age, Developing Methods of Inquiry, Research Without Copying* and many other titles including six children's

books.

The in-service training demonstrated research-based strategies for reading and writing in social studies, science, reading and language arts. It featured strategies proven by scientifically-based research for guiding students to actively seek and construct meaning and to create products that shape and communicate that meaning effectively.

Fargo PD Annual Community Picnic

By Stacy Sanders, Parole/Probation Officer
DOCR Field Services Division

On 07/15/03, staff from the Fargo District of ND DOCR – Field Services represented the division at the Community Picnic at Island Park in Fargo. The picnic was sponsored by the Fargo Police Department, with participants including area law enforcement, and fire and rescue departments.

John Gourde, Stacy Sanders, Julie Norman, Barb Breiland and Corey Kolpin represented the Field Services Division at the picnic. Staff set up a booth with visual aids to help explain the many aspects of our division to the public. During the three hour picnic, our staff

conversed with many Fargo-Moorhead area residents about our mission as a division and also attempted to answer any questions the public had concerning Parole and Probation. The picnic was a success as Island Park was full of faces of all ages enjoying a beautiful summer evening.



DOCR PERSONNEL NEWS

New to DOCR

DJS, Community Services
Administrative Assistant I Meranda Garcia
Juvenile Corrections Specialist Joshua Rude
Temp Administrative Assistant Jan Hendrickson

Field Services Division
Correctional Caseworker Dan Everson
Temp Admin Assistant II Stella Stout

Prisons Division
JRCC
Food Service Operations Supv I Valerie Burgard
Gloria Guthmiller Marcene Veil
Stacy Petrek Diane Rolfzen
Christy Saylor
Food Service Operations Supv II Carole Randall
Paulette Barnick Loretta Iszler
Paul Weber Michelle Schumacher
Gail Roberg
Food Service Director I Shawn Fisher
Carpenter II Raymond Carr
Electrician II Lanny George
Plumber I Dennis Walz
Laundry Worker Robert Gaub
Alice Junke Lucille Morlock
Laundry Manager I Sigurd Odegard
General Trade Maintenance Worker II Larry Lee
Corrections Trainee Linette Guthmiller
Correctional Officer I Robert Hoyt
Michael Lucht Teage Kinzell
Registered Nurse II Debra Belgarde
NDSP
Account Technician II Bonnie Siewert

Position Changes/Promotions

DJS, Youth Correctional Center
Temp Employee to Instructor Terry Braun
Juvenile Resident Spec I to Juv Corr Inst Case Manager Daniel Weising

Field Services Division
PO II to PO III Kara Carr
PO I to PO II Clarissa Goldsack
CCA I to CCA II Kathy Kirkby
CCA II to Correctional Case Worker Rebecca Whitney

Prisons Division
JRCC
CO I to CO II Mark Keyes
Jeff Beyer
Corrections Trainee to CO II Glen Traux
Phillip Bleibaum Paul Folmer
Jenny Kelsch Thomas Kaushkouski
Teva Tesky
Temp CO to Correctional Trainee Dale Reiger
Deb Berg
NDSP
Temp CO to CO I Brian Jacobson
Robert Feist
Temp CO to CO II Paul Hewitt
Suzette Schafer
CO II to Correctional Caseworker Karla Marsh
CO II to CO III Doug Baumiller
Correctional Caseworker to RRI Peter Fried
Correctional Caseworker to CO III Doug Baumiller
Maintenance Supervisor I to II Bruce Meyers
Admin Staff Officer I to Education Program Coordin. Tammy Barstad

Retirements

DJS, Youth Correctional Center
Instructor Trent Barstad
Juvenile Correctional Institution Case Manager Harvey Gangl

Prisons Division
NDSP
Correctional Officer III Vince Leuwer
Account Technician II Elaine Breckel

Left Employment with DOCR

DJS, Community Services
Temp Administrative Assistant Cheryl Benjamin
Juvenile Corrections Specialist Darin Viken

DJS, Youth Correctional Center
Juvenile Institution Resident Spec. I Mary Bergstad

Field Services Division
Parole/Probation Officer II Jim Becker
Temp Admin Assistant II Ian Hudson

Prisons Division
JRCC
Corrections Trainee Adam Middlestead
Wayne Wehler Brian Backer
Correctional Officer II Jessica Enzinger
Phillip Bleibaum
Registered Nurse II Twila Heinrich
Betty Boyko
Social Worker II Shawna McFarland
Addiction Counselor II Sandra Radermacher
NDSP
Correctional Officer I Doug Miller
Correctional Officer II Brianne Skachenko
Rhonda Kingsley
Registered Nurse II LeAna Hug

2002 DOCR SERVICE AWARDS

FIVE YEARS

DJS Community

Tony Kozojed..... Angela Reinke
Lisa Severson Jan Sippel

ND YCC

Keven Barstad Gregg Engelhart
Mike Groce..... Torrie Jost
Ryan Kudrna Jerry Kunrath
Beau Massey Van Mitzel
..... Traci Schlag

Field Services Division

Terry Grumbo..... Chad Hoornaert
Mary Kirkeby..... Sherrie Krabbenhoft
Lila Thomas..... Rebecca Whitney

State Penitentiary

Joshua Bearfield..... Steven Bertsch
Cory Bohne..... Darin Ferderer
Steven Foster..... Dr. Mark Hanlon
Darin Hartl..... Eric Hasby
Ron Mosbrucker..... David Hipsack
Ronald Kopp Steven Mayer
Jacob Mertz, Jr..... Matthew Nelson
Barbara Sams..... Kary Stoltz

JRCC

..... JoAnn Hennings

TEN YEARS

DJS Community..... Sydney Hove

ND YCC

Bekky Donovan Jess Friesz
Charlene Jones LeAnn Kahl
Mark Klein..... Michelle Krefting
Diane Rasset Dr. Bernie Rodel
Janice Schwartzbauer Dawn Severson

Field Services Division

Dave Birrenkott..... Penny Blotsky
Steven Bohl..... Jennifer College

State Penitentiary

Cherie Denning..... Peggy Hertz
Gary Goroski Scott Davy
..... Laura Skager

FIFTEEN YEARS

ND YCC

Lori Fleck..... Stan Kahl
Delmar Markel..... Judy Ringgenberg
..... Tim Tausend

Field Services Division

Barbara Breiland..... Sandy Parent
..... Sharon Bachmeier

State Penitentiary

Nora Mattheisen..... Ron Bjelland
Kim Molesworth..... Barb Gross
Denise Senger..... Craig Theurer

TWENTY YEARS

ND YCC..... Chris Roth

State Penitentiary

Flynt Hintz Don Magstadt
Terry Moszer Darrell Wald
..... Ron Toso

JRCC

..... Jerome Huck

TWENTY FIVE YEARS

DJS Community..... Junell Roswick

ND YCC

Nancie Pierce..... Eric Thompson

THIRTY FIVE YEARS

ND Youth Correctional Center

..... Jeanette Holm

DOCR EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Field Services..... Charles Placek

State Penitentiary..... Tammy Barstad

JRCC..... Pat Altringer, CCW

ND State Peace Officers Tactical Team Competition

By Steve Mayer, Correctional Caseworker
DOCR Prisons Division

On August 12, 13th 2003 the North Dakota State Penitentiary Tactical Team participated in the North Dakota State Peace Officers Tactical Team competition in Grand Forks. The competition consisted of a four person combined team shoot. The four-member team consisted of Corey Bohne,

shooting tactical shotgun, Joe Charvat, Tactical handgun, Steve Mayer, Tactical Sniper Competition, and Mike Hovrud, Tactical submachine gun event.

The competition consisted of 11 Tactical teams from throughout the state competing for top honors.

At the completion of the two-day event the North Dakota State

Penitentiary Tactical team took home 2nd Place honors in the competition. The team also competed in the four man handgun competition and took home 3rd place overall in the Masters Division.



Tactical Basic Training

By Joseph Charvat, NDSP SORT Team Leader
DOCR Prisons Division

The NDSP SORT team recently completed the Tactical basic training course, which was put on by Troy Pfaff and Scott Edinger from Jamestown PD.

Topics covered include room entries, building clearing, open-air hostage rescue, and

shelterbelt clearing. The 24-hour course was held at YCC in September 2003. Thirteen SORT operators completed the course and will receive certificates. We would like to thank YCC for the use of Divine Hall, and Jamestown Police Department for providing the instructors.



SORT Team "Room Clearing" at YCC's Divine Hall



4 YCC Staff Certified as Low/High Element Ropes Facilitators

By Michael Porter, Director of Recreation
ND Youth Correctional Center

On May 19, 2003, through May 23, 2003, Stan Kahl, Rick Peterson, Lori Elverud, and Jeremy Ward participated in the Ropes and Challenge Course experience presented by Dan Miller of Adventure Based Experiential Educators, Incorporated (ABEE, Inc.). All four staff members passed their written and practical tests with ABEE, Inc. and are now facilitators for the Circle of Courage™ Challenge Course. They will be facilitating groups for the students of the North Dakota Youth Correctional Center incorporating team-building skills, communication skills, problem-solving skills, and self-awareness skills while building the students' self-esteem through participation.

"If given a chance to conduct a ropes course like this one, it would not only benefit student growth as an individual, but also team building. If anyone has the opportunity to go through an experience like this, I would take it," stated Jeremy Ward, an Institutional Resident Counselor in Hickory Cottage. The course is built at Camp Neche, property of the Girl

Scouts Sakakawea Chapter in south Bismarck. It has a low element course, where many of the team-building and communication skills are learned before individuals can attempt the high element course. The high element course currently has five stations, some of which are modeled after the low elements.

Lori Elverud, Stan Kahl, Rick Peterson, Mindi McKechnie, and Kent Bullinger also went through Group Processing training with the North Dakota National Guard using their Portable Ropes Challenge Kit. "I thoroughly enjoyed the low/high ropes training that we recently participated in. The experience was one of the hardest and most challenging things I have ever done. I feel I learned a lot about my own level of courage and ability and I think the youth and others who participate will learn a lot and will come away feeling stronger than they knew they could be and will have a feeling of pride in what they accomplish. I would challenge all who get the chance to

participate, you will be glad you did and may surprise yourself at what you will accomplish. When you challenge yourself your life feels richer," stated Lori Elverud an Institutional Residential Counselor in Maple Cottage.



Lori Elverud

Jeremy Ward



Rick Peterson
IRC-Brown

Stan Kahl
IRC-Pine

Jeremy Ward
IRC-Hickory

Lori Elverud
IRC-Maple

NDSP Employee of the Month

July 2003

Jerry Zimmer Lieutenant -MRCC

August 2003

Dan Ebach Correctional Caseworker

September 2003

Ed Miller Correctional Officer

JRCC Employee of the Month

July 2003

Melissia Kleven Commissary Director

August 2003

Christine Kinzler Correctional Officer

September 2003

Lyle Mee Correctional Officer

NDPERS Annual Enrollment Season

This is the annual enrollment period for the following PERS benefit plans:

- PPO Health Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Vision Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Long-Term Care Insurance
- Flex Comp

NDPERS mailed a packet of enrollment information to employees who are eligible for these benefit plans. Enrollment/election forms are available through your divisional payroll staff (page 4 of newsletter) or can be downloaded from the NDPERS website at <http://www.state.nd.us/ndpers/>

All forms must be completed and returned to your divisional payroll staff (listed on page 4 of this newsletter) **no later than 11/14/03.**



Jeremy Ward

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WWW.STATE.ND.US/DOCR/

DOCR MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission Is...

To protect the public while providing a safe and humane environment for both adults and juveniles placed in the Department's care and custody. The Department will carry out the judgments of the North Dakota courts to both incarcerate inmates for the protection of society and to provide rehabilitative programs in an effort to successfully reintegrate offenders back into society.

Prisons Division Inmate Population Information

Population as of October 01, 2003: **1,224**
(531 NDSP, 359 JRCC, 143 MRCC, 64 at TRCC, 50 at BTC, 4 on CPP, 47 in Jails, 21 on Interstate Compact, & 5 on Temporary Leave)

Offense	Inmate Count	Average Sentence
Violent Offenders (Excluding Sexual)	329	115 Months
Sex Offenders	189	130 Months
Drug Offenders & Alcohol	414	58 Months
Other	292	46 Months

Sentenced for Delivery/Manufacture/Intent: 220

Sentenced for Simple Possession of Drugs
or Paraphernalia: 150

Sentenced for Alcohol Related Offenses: 44

Minimum Mandatory Sentenced Inmate Breakout (as of October 01, 2003)

Offense	Inmate Count	Average Sentence
DUI/APC	37	30 Months
Driving Under Suspension	7	11 Months
Drug Offenses (not alcohol)	55	109 Months
Reckless Endangerment	3	56 Months
Aggravated Assault	4	66 Months
Sex Offense	4	180 Months
Terrorizing	4	42 Months
Robbery	21	91 Months
Negligent Homicide	2	60 Months
Manslaughter	3	152 Months
Murder	3	160 Months

TOTAL Mandatory Sentenced Inmates

143

NOTE: 11.7% of the inmate population on October 01, 2003, had a minimum mandatory sentence.

85% Truth-in-Sentencing (TIS)	145	113 Months
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35 life sentences for Murder